

HOUSE BILL 1513

By Cochran

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, Part 22, relative to the Textbook
Transparency Act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 22, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) This section is known and may be cited as the "Textbook Transparency Act."

(b) No later than January 1, 2022, textbooks adopted by an LEA or public charter school for which there is an electronic version available must have the electronic version of the textbook stored on an electronic database maintained by, and accessible to the public at, each public university's main campus library.

(c) The database must be available for the public to review the textbooks adopted by LEAs and public charter schools during the library's regular business hours.

A person reviewing a textbook stored on the electronic database shall not:

(1) Copy any part of a textbook; or

(2) Be charged by the university to view the textbook.

(d) The state board of education, in consultation with the Tennessee higher education commission, shall develop or approve the database required in subsection (b). The state board may contract with a third party to develop the database. The database must include copyright protections for textbooks stored in the database.

(e) The textbook must remain in the database until the textbook ceases to be used by an LEA or public charter school. Each public university shall add or remove a textbook from the database in accordance with this subsection (e).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.